



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)



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## The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 220, May 3, 2024

**Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor**

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <http://www.arrl.org>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

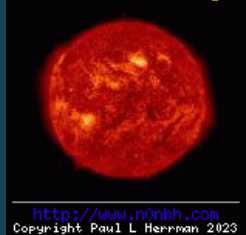
Dr. Tony Phillips' [SpaceWeather.com](http://SpaceWeather.com), used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



### Solar-Terrestrial Data

04 May 2024 1349 GMT  
SFI: 156 SN: 140  
A-Index: 10  
K-Index: 1  
X-Ray: C2.8  
304Å: 137.3 @ SEM  
Ptn Flx: 925  
Elc Flx: 1100  
Aurora: 2/n=1.99  
Mag (Bz): -0.2  
Solar Wind: 361.2  
Geomag Field VR QUIET  
Sig Noise Lvl S0-S1  
Current Solar Image



<http://www.n0nbh.com>  
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## DX News

**3D2, CONWAY REEF.** Members of the Rebel DX Group are QRV as **3D2CCC**. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0524)

**5X, UGANDA.** Jack, NP2OR (ex 5X7JD), is currently active as **5X3L** from the village Kayabwe on the equator. He will be joined by Don 7Q6M (K6ZO) on April 25th. QRV **until May 10th** while preparing some local newcomers for their license exams. QSL via [5X3L](#).  
-[DXNL # 2403 April 24, 2024] (0426-0510)

**5Z, KENYA.** Reto, HB9BFL is QRV as **5Z4GO** from Mombasa. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0524)

**8P, BARBADOS.** Lars, PHØNO is QRV as **8P9NO** until May 8th. Activity is holiday style on 20 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. This includes activating some WWFF references. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0510)

**9H, MALTA.** Special callsign **9H6HE** is being used by the Malta Amateur Radio League (9H1MRL) to celebrate the swearing in of Dr. Myriam Spiteri Debono as Malta's 11th President. Look for activity from April 15th to May 31st, on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters SSB, CW and digital modes. Paper QSL cards will not be available; QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0531)

**9X, RWANDA.** Harald, DF2WO is QRV as **9X2AW** from Kigali until May 17th. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0517)

**A2, BOTSWANA.** Remo, HB9SHD will be QRV as **A25SHD** from April 30th to May 13th. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0517)

**BY, CHINA.** Ten stations (**BØCRA, B1CRA, B2CRA, B3CRA, B4CRA, B5CRA, B6CRA, B7CRA, B8CRA** and **B9CRA**) from across the country will be active on May 3rd-5th (60 hours) for this year's "5.5 China Amateur Radio Festival" on air event, organized by the Chinese Radio Amateurs Club (CRAC). See <http://www.crac.org.cn/55> for log search and the awards. QSL via LoTW, or direct to CRAC, PO Box 100029-73, 100029 Beijing, P.R. China

-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0510)

**CEØY, EASTER I.** Ben DL6FBL, Win DK9IP and Lutz DM6EE will be active as **3GØYA** from April 18th to May 6th on their DXpedition to Easter Island (SA-001). They will operate SSB, FT8 and CW on 160-6 meters. More information can be found on

<https://www.qrz.com/db/3GØYA>. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) (preferred), or via [DJ4MX](#).

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0510)

**CE9, ANTARCTICA.** Igor, RQ8K is QRV as **RI1ANE** from the Base Progress, IOTA AN-016, until May 2025. Activity is in his spare time. QSL via [RN3RQ](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0510)

**CN, MOROCCO.** In celebration of the 21st birthday of Prince Moulay Hassan, the heir apparent to the Moroccan throne, special callsign **CN21HM** will be active on May 8th-12th. QSL direct to [CN8RAH](#).

-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0517)

**CT, PORTUGAL.** Members of the Portuguese DX Group are QRV with special call sign **CS2GPDX** during May to celebrate the group's 30th anniversary. Awards are available, see: <http://gpdx.netpower.pt/>. QSL via bureau.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0531)

**CT3, MADEIRA IS.** Members of the Portuguese DX Group are QRV with special call sign **CR3GPDX** during May to celebrate the group's 30th anniversary. Awards are available, see: <http://gpdx.netpower.pt/>. QSL via bureau.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0531)

**CU, AZORES.** Members of the Portuguese DX Group are QRV with special call sign **CR2GPDX** during May to celebrate the group's 30th anniversary. Awards are available,

see: <http://gpdx.netpower.pt/>. QSL via bureau.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0531)

**DXCC TOP TWENTY.** Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of May 3, 2024:

1. P5 DPRK (North Korea)	11. 3Y/B Bouvet Island
2. BS7H Scarborough Reef	12. ZS8 Prince Edward & Marion Islands
3. CE0X San Felix Islands	13. KH4 Midway Island
4. BV9P Pratas Island	14. VK0M Macquarie Island
5. KH7K Kure Island	15. PY0S Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
6. KH3 Johnston Island	16. KP5 Desecheo Island
7. FT/G Glorioso Island	17. VP0S South Sandwich Islands
8. 3Y/P Peter 1 Island	18. KH5 Palmyra & Jarvis Islands
9. FT5/X Kerguelen Island	19. ZL9 New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
10. YV0 Aves Island	20. FK/C Chesterfield Islands

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[K0CF May 3, 2024] (0503-0517)

**EA, SPAIN.** Once again, the Federacion Digital EA will operate special callsigns **AO1EU**, **AO2EU**, **AO3EU**, **AO4EU**, **AO5EU**, **AO6EU**, **AO7EU**, **AO8EU** and **AO9EU** on **May 3rd-12th** to celebrate Europe Day, the anniversary of the Schuman Declaration (May 9, 1950) that paved the way to the European Union. See <https://www.fediea.org/eudota/> for more information. QSL direct to [EA3RKF](http://EA3RKF).

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0503-0517)

**EA, SPAIN.** Celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Union de Radioaficionados Espanoles (URE), Spanish amateurs are allowed to replace their Normal prefix from **May 1st to May 31st** as follows: EA stations can use AO#75, EB stations can use AN#75, and EC stations can use AM#75, where "#" is the digit of their call area. For example, EA1FMJ will use AO175FMJ, EC5BUH will use AM575BUH, EB7KA will use AN775KA.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0517)

**EI, IRELAND.** Special event station **EI80MB** remains active **until the end of May** from the National Maritime Museum, commemorating the rescue of 169 German sailors by the MV Kerlogue after a battle in the Bay of Biscay. QSL via [EI6AL](http://EI6AL), [ClubLog's OQRS](http://ClubLog's OQRS).

-[DXNL # 2404 May 1, 2024] (0503-0531)

**F, FRANCE.** Team **TM24U** (Kurt ON5DZ, Luc ON7KZ, Geert ON7USB and Francis ON8AZ) will be active from Saint Nicolas Island (EU-094) on **May 5th-10th**. They will operate CW, SSB and FT8 on 60-10 meters. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog. See <https://tm24u.be/> for more information.

-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0510)

**F, FRANCE.** Special callsign **TM13JO** will be active on **May 8th-15th** as the Paris 2024 Olympic Torch Relay passes through the French Department of the Bouche du Rhone. QSL via [F5SDD](http://F5SDD).

Also active during the same time frame are expected to be **TM83JO** from the Department of Var (May 8th-12th) and **TM04JO** from the Department of Alpes-de-Haute-Provence. QSLs via operators' instructions.

They will be followed by a large number of other special callsigns, which in the following weeks will cover the progress of the Olympic Torch as it crosses other Departments and Territories until its arrival in Paris on July 26th. The Association des Radioamateurs Vauclusiens (F5KPO) organizes the "Olympic Torch Relay Challenge" for contacts made with those stations - see <https://www.qrz.com/db/TM00JO> for the details, and <https://www.oly24.fr/awardform.html> for the certificates.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0503-0517)

**FY, FRENCH GUIANA.** Operators at club station FY5KE are QRV as **T060CSG** each weekend in April, May, and June to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Guiana Space

Centre. See detailed information at [TO6QCSG](https://www.qrz.com/db/TO6QCSG). QSL direct to [FY5KE](https://www.qrz.com/db/FY5KE).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 14 April 4, 2024] (0405-0628)

**G, ENGLAND.** Special event station **GB6WW** will be active from **May 1st to 28th**, commemorating the end of World War II. An award is also available for contacts with GB6WW on 3 bands. QSL via [MMQDFV](https://www.qrz.com/db/MMQDFV).

-[DXNL # 2404 May 1, 2024] (0503-0531)

**G, ENGLAND.** Joining Guglielmo Marconi's 150th anniversary celebrations, the Cornish Radio Amateur Club (GX4CRC) will be active as **GB15QGM** from **April 27th until July 27th**. This activity participates in the "Marconi 150 Award", organized by the Associazione Radioamatori Italiani (ARI) and the Coordinamento Stazioni Marconiane Italiane (CSMI) under the patronage of the Guglielmo Marconi Foundation. See IR2GMCL below. QSL via eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0726)

**GI, NORTHERN IRELAND.** Once again the North West Group ARC (MNQNWG) is running special event station **GBQAE** from **May 5th to 31st** to commemorate the anniversary of Amelia Earhart's transatlantic flight. On May 20-21, 1932, Earhart became the first woman to fly nonstop and alone across the Atlantic, leaving Harbor Grace on Newfoundland (Canada), and landing 15 hours later near Londonderry (Northern Ireland). QSL via [MIQHOZ](https://www.qrz.com/db/MIQHOZ).

-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0531)

**I, ITALY.** The United Nations Global Service Centre ARC (4U1GSC) in Brindisi is active as **4U29MAY** until **May 31st**. The special callsign promotes the International Day of UN Peacekeepers (May 29th). DXCC wise, it counts for Italy. QSL via [9A2AA](https://www.qrz.com/db/9A2AA).

-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0531)

**I, ITALY.** Commemorating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, members of ARI's Board of Directors will be active as **IR2GMCL** from **April 28th to July 27th** during the "Marconi 150 Award". See <https://www.qrz.com/db/IR2GMCL> for the rules. Paper QSL cards will not be provided; electronic QSLs may be downloaded from the HamAward platform.

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0726)

**I, ITALY.** Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, members of ARI Montegrappa (IQ3RP) will be active as **II3GM** from **April 15th to May 15th**. QSL via operator's instructions.

-[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0412-0517)

**I, ITALY.** Members of ARI Venezia (IQ3VE) will be active as **IR3POLO** from **April 1st to June 30th**. The special callsign commemorates the 700th anniversary since the death of Marco Polo, the Venetian merchant and explorer who travelled through Asia along the Silk Road (1271-1295). All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1716 March 23, 2024] (0329-0628)

**I, ITALY.** Members of ARI Sondrio (IQ2UL) will operate special event station **II2AUT** from **March 25th to May 7th** for the World Autism Awareness Day. Back in 2007 the United Nations General Assembly declared April 2nd as World Autism Awareness Day to highlight the need to help improve the quality of life of autistic individuals so they can lead full and meaningful lives as an integral part of society. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog. QSL via the bureau and eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1715 March 16, 2024] (0322-0510)

**JA, JAPAN.** Look for Mitsu, **JE1HXZ/6** to be active from Yonaguni Island (AS-024) from **April 26th to May 5th**. He will operate CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8/FT4 on 160-6 meters. Bureau cards can be requested by email (details on qrz.com). QSL via LoTW (preferred)



or direct to [JE1HXZ](#).

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0510)

**JA, JAPAN.** Sam, 7K1EAS, will be QRV as **JR6/7K1EAS** from Yonaguni Island (AS-024) from **April 30th to May 2nd**. He will operate FT8 and FT4 on 15, 12 and 10 meters. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0510)

**JA, JAPAN.** Take, JI3DST will be active again from the Miyako Islands (AS-079) from **April 24th to June 26th**. Callsigns to be used are **JS6RRR**, **JS6RRR/6**, **JI3DST/6**, **JJ5RBH/6** and **JR8YLY/6** on SSB and CW, as well as **JS6RRR/p**, **JI3DST/p**, **JJ5RBH/p** and **JR8YLY/p** on FT8/FT4. QSOs will be made available for ClubLog and LoTW Matching on the IOTA website.

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0628)

**JW, SVALBARD.** Knut, LA9DSA will be active as **JW9DSA** from Svalbard from **April 29th to May 5th**. He will operate mainly SSB, with plans to go portable for SOTA and possibly also POTA activations. QSL only via LoTW or eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0510)

**KH9, WAKE I.** Tom, NL7RR is QRV as **KH9/NL7RR** until **May 15th**. Activity is generally on 20 meters using SSB around 0700z. QSL direct to [NL7RR](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0517)

**OE, AUSTRIA.** Austrian amateurs are going to put **OE2ØSOTA** on the air from different summits from **May through October**, marking the 20th anniversary of the Austrian SOTA program. An award is available for 20 contacts with the special callsign. For more information see: <https://www.grz.com/db/OE20SOTA> and <https://oevsv.at/funkbetrieb/sota/OE20SOTA/> for a calendar with an operating schedule.

-[DXNL # 2404 May 1, 2024] (0503-0524)

**OJØ, MARKET REEF.** Bjorn, LA1UW, Tor, LA3WAA, Stian, LB5SH, and Kristoffer, LBØVG are QRV as **OJØT** on CW and SSB. The ops are using **OJØ/home** calls on FT8. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8 with four stations until **May 4th**. QSL via [EA5GL](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0510)

**OK, CZECH REPUBLIC.** Sixteen special event stations, representing the teams competing in the 87th Ice Hockey World Championship to be held in the Czech Republic (May 10th-26th), will be active from **April 27th to May 26th**: **OL87DL**, **OL87F**, **OL87G**, **OL87HB**, **OL87LA**, **OL87OE**, **OL87OH**, **OL87OK**, **OL87OM**, **OL87OZ**, **OL87SM**, **OL87SP**, **OL87UN**, **OL87VE**, **OL87W** and **OL87YL**. Look for activity on 160-10 meters SSB, CW and digital modes. Three certificates will be available: see <https://ol87whc.cz/> for information. Paper QSLs will not be issued, but electronic QSLs are via LoTW and eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0524)

**ON, BELGIUM.** The special event station **OR9ØAR** will be active during **May**, commemorating the death of Albert I of Belgium 90 years ago. QSL via bureau.

-[DXNL # 2404 May 1, 2024] (0503-0531)

**ON, BELGIUM.** Members of Club Radio Durnal (ON4CRD) will be active as **OR9ØAL** on **May 1st-31st**. The special callsign marks 90 years since the death of Albert I, King of the Belgians, who died in a mountaineering accident at the age of 58. QSL via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0531)

**ON, BELGIUM.** Special event station **OT2Ø24EPIC** is QRV until **May 19th** to promote the seventh edition of the Antwerp Port Epic cycling race. QSL via operators' instructions.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0517)

**OX, GREENLAND.** Bo, OZ1DJJ will be active again as **OX3LX** from Greenland from **April 26th to May 9th**. In his spare time, he will operate FT8, RTTY and CW from Kangerlussuaq (grid GP60), Nuuk (grid GP44) and Paamiut (grid GP51). QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW and ClubLog. QSL via [OZØJ](#).  
-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0510)

**OZ, DENMARK.** A team of seven Belgian operators (ON1BN, ON4AWT, ON6EF, ON6VJ, ON7TA, ON7VM and ON9DJ) will be active as **5P5LI** from Lolland Island (EU-029) from **April 29th to May 6th**. They will operate SSB, CW and digital modes on 160-6 meters. QSL via [ON6EF](#).  
-[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0426-0510)

**PY, BRAZIL.** Gus, PT2ADM is QRV as **ZW3ØAS** until **May 31st**. Look for activity on 80-6 meters digital and SSB. This special callsign honors Ayrton Senna, the Brazilian Formula 1 driver, on the 30th anniversary of his death during the 1994 San Marino Grand Prix. QSL via LoTW, or via [PT2ADM](#).  
-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0531)

**SM, SWEDEN.** Ric, DL2VFR will be active as **SM3/DL2VFR** from Alnon Island (EU-087) on **May 8th-11th**, and as **SM2/DL2VFR** from Holmon Island (EU-135) on **May 11th-14th**. He will operate CW and some SSB. He *might* also be QRV as **SM5/DL2VFR** from IOTA group EU-084 on **May 15th or 16th**. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW and Club Log. QSL via [DL2VFR](#).  
-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0510)

**SP, POLAND.** Marking the 25th anniversary since Poland joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, special callsign **HF25NATO** will be active from **May 1st to August 31st**. A certificate will be available for download on <https://hf25nato.spaward.pl>. Only 100 "limited edition QSL cards" will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis via [ClubLog's OQRS](#). e-QSL via LoTW.  
-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0517)

**UA, EUROPEAN RUSSIA.** A very large number of Russian stations using special prefix **RP79** (where the letter P stands for "Pobeda", i.e. "victory") will be active on **May 1st-9th** to celebrate the 79th anniversary of the end of World War II. More information, including the list of participating stations and their QSL routes, is expected to be available on <https://pobeda.srr.ru/> in due course.  
-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0510)

**UA, EUROPEAN RUSSIA.** Oleg, RD1A, who operated as RI41POL from aboard the vessel "Severnnyy Polyus" in 2023, is now active as **RIØPOL** from the same ship. The call was previously used by Vlad, UA4WHX, in 2015. QSL via [RN3RQ](#).  
-[DXNL # 2403 April 24, 2024] (0426-0517)

**VU7, LAKSHADWEEP IS.** Santhilal, VU3OQK, reports that he is planning to be active as **VU7LAL** from Lakshadweep Islands (Agatti & Kavarathi) towards the **end of April until May 31st**. He will be on 40, 20 and 10 meters from both islands. QSL via [VU3OQK](#).  
-[Tnx KØJGH April 13, 2024] (0426-0531)

**XU, CAMBODIA.** Tom, DL7BO is QRV as **XU7GNY** until **May 12th**. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8 with an emphasis on the low bands. QSL via [DL4WK](#).  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0517)

**XW, LAOS.** Vincent, **XW4KV** is QRV from Vang Vieng until **June 1st**. Lately he has been active on 15 meters using FT8 around 1100z. QSL via [F4BKV](#).  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 12 March 21, 2024] (0322-0531)

**XX9, MACAO.** Wai, **XX9CM** is usually active on 17 meters using SSB around 1430 to 1900z. QSL direct to [XX9CM](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0510)

**YI, IRAQ.** Antonio, IZ5WPZ is QRV as **YI9WPZ** until August. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via [IK2DUW](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0524)

**YI, IRAQ.** Sam, **YI1YY** has been QRV on 20 meters around 2340z. QSL via [IK2DUW](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0517)

**YJ, VANUATU.** Chris, VK2YUS will be QRV as **YJ0CA** from Port Vila (OC-035) from April 27th to May 9th. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using SSB mostly between 2100 to 1000z. QSL direct to [VK2YUS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0510)

**YO, ROMANIA.** Celebrating the 95th anniversary of the first amateur radio association in Romania's Arad County, special callsigns **YR95AR, YR95CC, YR95CH, YR95IN, YR95LI, YR95PE** and **YR95SE** will be active from February 16th until May 31st. The event is being organized by C.S. Radioclub Admira (YO2KBQ), the successor of the club that was established almost a century ago. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/YR95AR> for more information.

-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0531)

**Z8, SOUTH SUDAN.** Diya, YI1DZ is QRV as **Z81D** from Juba until May 31st. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters, and possibly 160 and 80 meters, using SSB and FT8. QSL via [OM3JW](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0531)

**ZC4, UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS.** Dave, G4WXJ will be QRV as **ZC4RH** from April 28th to May 9th. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via [DK6SP](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0510)

**ZL, NEW ZEALAND.** On May 22, 1924, Ivan O'Meara (2AC) in Gisborne, New Zealand made the first trans-Pacific contact with Carlos Braggio (CB8) near Buenos Aires, Argentina on 130 meters, setting a world record distance of just over 10,000 km. To commemorate this historic milestone, the Gisborne Branch of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters (NZART) will be using the special callsign **ZL100AC** throughout the month of May.

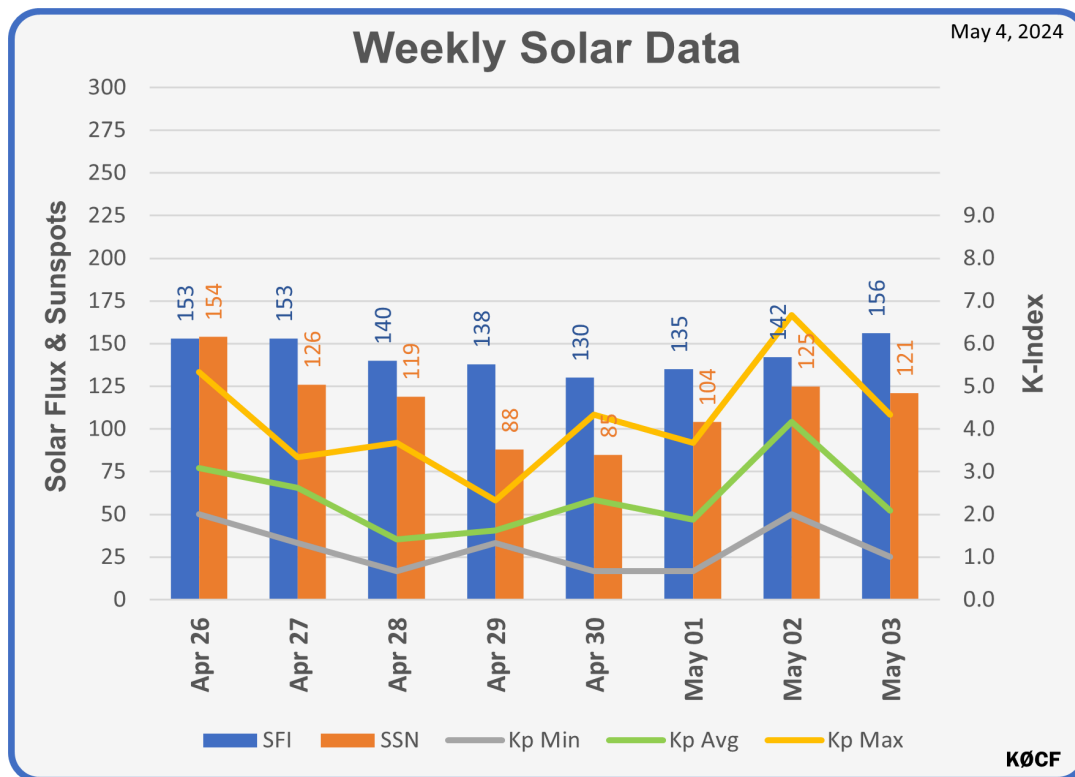
-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0531)

**ZL, NEW ZEALAND.** Special event station **ZL6WG** remains active until May 31st supporting the 98th NZART conference (June 1st-2nd) at the Museum of Aeronautics in Christchurch. An award is also available. QSL only via LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2403 April 24, 2024] (0426-0531)

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## Propagation (Updated daily)



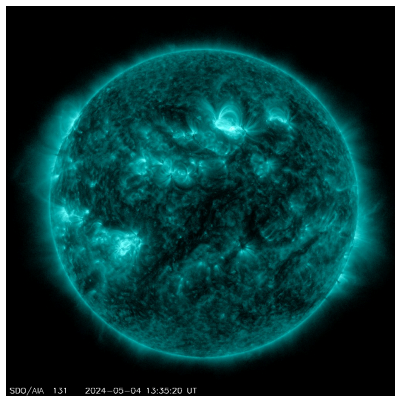
The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

*Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.*

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.



Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!

## Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Friday, April 26th through yesterday, May 3rd.

The average solar flux was 142, down 57 points from the previous week, with a weekly



high of 156 on Friday, May 3rd, following a low of 130 on April 30th.

The average sunspot count was 110, down by 136 from last week, peaking at 154 on Friday, April 26th followed by a weekly low of 85 on April 30th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 4.2 with a maximum of 6.7 on Thursday, May 2nd, resulting in moderate geomagnetic storm conditions.

Solar flare activity since April 27th has been very high with 19 major flares, the largest of which was a major X 1.6 event on Friday, May 3rd.

## Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Saturday, April 27th through 1314 UTC, May 4th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	May 04	0707	M 1.5
2	May 04	0619	M 9.1
3	May 04	0036	M 1.6
4	May 03	2330	M 2.4
5	May 03	2247	M 1.2
6	May 03	0811	M 4.4
7	May 03	0222	X 1.6
8	May 03	0015	M 2.7
9	May 02	2057	M 2.7
10	May 02	0217	M 1.0
11	May 01	2231	M 1.8
12	May 01	1432	M 1.8
13	Apr 30	2346	M 9.5
14	Apr 30	1511	M 1.2
15	Apr 30	0114	M 1.6
16	Apr 29	0111	M 3.7
17	Apr 29	0048	M 2.5
18	Apr 27	2140	M 3.0
19	Apr 27	1235	M 2.1

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
May 4	75%	25%	158
May 5	75%	25%	155
May 6	75%	25%	160

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data

is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on April 29, 2024).

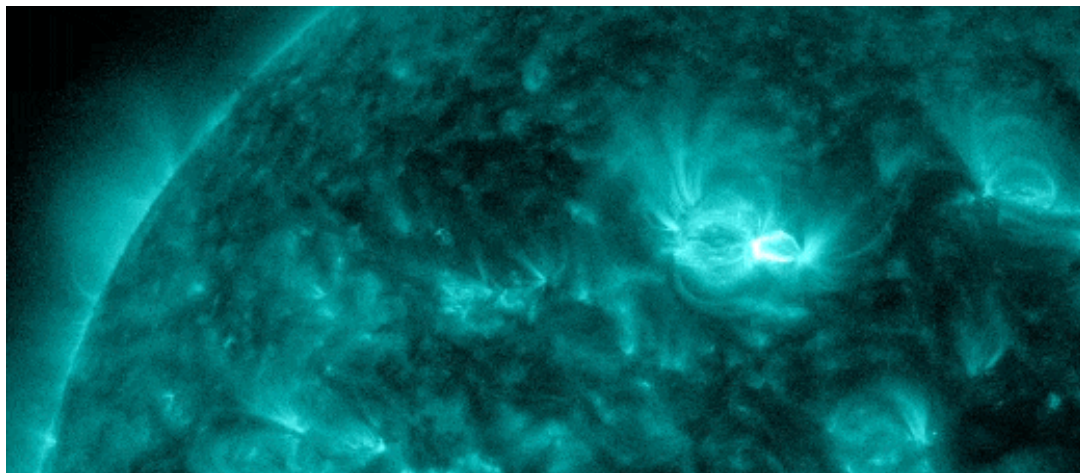
Date	Flux	Kp
May 4	120	3
May 5	125	3
May 6	125	3
May 7	130	3

Date	Flux	Kp
May 8	145	2
May 9	150	2
May 10	155	2
May 11	155	2

Date	Flux	Kp
May 12	160	2
May 13	175	2
May 14	180	2
May 15	205	2

## X-Class Solar Flare

New sunspot AR3663 erupted this morning, May 3rd @ 0222 UT, producing an X1.6-class solar flare. NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory captured the extreme ultraviolet flash:



Radiation from the flare ionized the top of Earth's atmosphere and caused a deep shortwave radio blackout over Australia, Japan, and much of China. Ham radio operators may have noticed loss of signal below 30 MHz for a half an hour after the flare's peak.

Shortly after the flare, the US Air Force reported a Type II solar radio burst, a type of natural radio signal emitted by shocked gas at the leading edge of a CME. This means a CME might be emerging from the blast site. Confirmation awaits fresh data from the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO). Stay tuned.

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## Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 234 on January 15, 2023.

Sunspots: 283 on April 21, 2024.

## Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.net/>

<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

## A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters.

However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of

200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!  
-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

## Contest Calendar

### Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

### Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	May 4	0001Z	May 5	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
7th Call Area QSO Party	May 4	1300Z	May 5	0700Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Indiana QSO Party	May 4	1600Z	May 5	0400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>

Delaware QSO Party	May 4	1700Z	May 5	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
New England QSO Party	May 4	2000Z	May 5	2400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
CQ-M International DX Contest	May 11	1200Z	May 12	1159Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	May 18	1200Z	May 19	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Arkansas QSO Party	May 18	1400Z	May 19	0200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Baltic Contest	May 18	2100Z	May 19	0200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>CQ WW WPX Contest, CW</b>	May 25	0000Z	May 26	2400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Kentucky QSO Party	Jun 1	1300Z	Jun 2	0100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
ARRL Inter. Digital Contest	Jun 1	1800Z	Jun 2	2400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
ARRL June VHF Contest	Jun 8	1800Z	Jun 10	0300Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Jun 15	1500Z	Jun 16	1500Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
West Virginia QSO Party	Jun 15	1600Z	Jun 16	0400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
ARRL Kids Day	Jun 15	1800Z	Jun 15	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	Jun 22	1200Z	Jun 23	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	Jun 22	1200Z	Jun 23	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>ARRL Field Day</b>	Jun 22	1800Z	Jun 23	2100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
RAC Canada Day Contest	Jul 1	0000Z	Jul 1	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>IARU HF World Championship</b>	Jul 13	1200Z	Jul 14	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	Jul 20	1800Z	Jul 21	2100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Jul 20	1800Z	Jul 21	0559Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
RSGB IOTA Contest	Jul 27	1200Z	Jul 28	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Alabama QSO Party	Jul 27	1500Z	Jul 28	0300Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	Aug 3	0001Z	Aug 4	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
North American QSO Party, CW	Aug 3	1800Z	Aug 4	0600Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>

-[Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#) ]